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**Subject:** Flint Readout 03/21/16

## **Governor Snyder's 75 Point Plan**

[Governor Snyder's Goals to Strengthen Flint](#)

Released 03/21/16

[Gov. Snyder 75-point plan for Flint water crisis draws mixed reviews](#)

By Roberto Acosta, MLIVE 03/21/16 5:23 PM

Gov. Rick Snyder's 75-point action plan to aid the recovery of Flint amid the city's water crisis drew mixed reactions Monday. The plans include a range of short to long-term goals for water supply and infrastructure, jobs and economic development, education, health and human services, but funding is still yet to be secured for some of the action items.

[Snyder wants stricter lead standards for Flint, state](#)

By Paul Egan, Detroit Free Press 03/21/16 5:00 PM

Both Flint and Michigan will have far less tolerance for lead in drinking water, moving to a more stringent standard that triggers a response by regulators than what is currently set under federal rules, Gov. Rick Snyder said in a 75-point plan released Monday. Stemming from the lead contamination of Flint's drinking water, Snyder's plan addresses a range of issues from children's health, to economic development, to reviving the city's struggling economy. The document sets out short-, medium- and long-term goals in the areas of health and human services; water supply and infrastructure; education; and jobs and economic development.

### Michigan Governor Plans Stricter Lead-Test Rules After Flint

By David Eggert-Reuters for ABC News 03/21/16 4:44 PM

Gov. Rick Snyder said Monday he wants Flint and the entire state to have more stringent lead-level regulations than what federal rules require, following the city's water contamination crisis. In the long term Michigan will comply with a "much higher standard," according to a state document laying out the next steps in Flint in four areas — water supply and infrastructure, health and human services, education, and economic development.

### Flint water crisis: Michigan governor calls for stricter lead-level regulations

By AP for The Guardian 03/21/16 2:14 PM

Michigan governor Rick Snyder said on Monday he wants the city of Flint and the entire state to have more stringent lead-level regulations than those which federal rules require. In the long term, according to a state document laying out the next steps in Flint in four areas – water supply and infrastructure, health and human services, education and economic development – Michigan will comply with a “much higher standard”.

### Gov. Snyder Releases Comprehensive Plan To Help Flint Deal With Water Crisis

By Jamie Valentine, 9 & 10 News 03/21/16 2:20 PM

Genesee County wants the state of Michigan to re-pay more than \$1 million for funds it says were spent in response to Flint's water crisis. The county's board of commissioners sent a letter to Governor Rick Snyder Monday, arguing the water emergency was man-made. Genesee County says it has spent more than \$1.1 million in the wake of the water emergency.

### Michigan governor plans stricter lead-test rules after Flint

By Chicago Tribune 03/21/16 12:29 PM

Gov. Rick Snyder said Monday he wants Flint and the entire state to have more stringent lead-level regulations than what federal rules require, in the wake of the city's water contamination. In the long term Michigan will comply with a "much higher standard," according to a state document laying out the next steps in Flint in four areas — water supply and infrastructure, health and human services, education, and economic development.

### Here's how Michigan governor plans to fix Flint water crisis

By CBS News 03/21/16 11:55 AM

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder says new comprehensive action plans will help resolve Flint's lead-tainted water crisis in the coming years. Snyder on Monday announced the plans to improve public health, deal with old infrastructure, support educational services and boost employment.

### Michigan governor plots Flint's road to recovery

By Jessica Mendoza, Christian Science Monitor 03/21/16

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder (R) said he plans to hold the state to stricter lead-level rules than required by federal regulations as the state government on Monday released goals to help the city of Flint recover from a lead-contamination crisis. The recovery plan for Flint targets four areas: water supply and infrastructure, health and human services, education, and economic development. The effort seeks to improve on current US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rules, which state that a water system need only take steps to curb corrosion if lead concentrations surpass 15 parts per billion in more than 10 percent of taps sampled.

### State unveils big plans for Flint recovery after water crisis

By Roberto Acosta, MLIVE 03/21/16 9:27 AM

The state of Michigan has put together a set of action plans covering multiple for tackling issues in the city of Flint after the water crisis. The plans released Monday morning, March 21, offer short, intermediate and long-term goals focusing on topics including health and human services, water supply and infrastructure, education, jobs and economic development.

### Gov. Snyder announces action plans to fix Flint crisis

By Bob Brenzing, FOX 17 West Michigan 03/21/16 9:27 AM

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder says new comprehensive action plans will help resolve Flint's lead-tainted water crisis in the coming years. Snyder on Monday announced the plans to improve public health, deal with old infrastructure, support educational services and boost employment. Some of the shorter-term steps announced already are taking place.

### GOP leaders open to Snyder push on stricter water rules

By Jonathan Oosting, Detroit News 03/21/16 8:00 AM

Republican legislative leaders are open to Gov. Rick Snyder's initiative to create tougher state drinking water standards above and beyond what he calls the "dumb and dangerous" federal Lead and Copper Rule. Snyder on Monday unveiled a new 75-point action plan to address the Flint water contamination crisis, calling for a "much higher standard" for drinking water regulations but stopping short of advocating for complete replacement of all underground lead service lines in the city.

### **Other Gov. Snyder News**

#### Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder gets standing ovation on heels of Flint water crisis grilling

By Matt Vande Bunte, MLIVE 03/21/16 3:06 PM

Four days after getting grilled at a congressional hearing on the Flint water crisis, Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder received a standing ovation from the Economic Club of Grand Rapids today. The applause from the crowd of 500-plus preceded Snyder's Monday, March 21, talk, in which he said the Flint "tragedy" can be a call to action nationwide, and prompted swift rebuke on social media.

#### Michigan Governor Testifies at Congressional Hearing for Flint Water Crisis

By Taylor Lewis, Essence 03/21/16 3:25 PM

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder faced an intense line of questioning regarding Flint's lead-laced water during a hearing with the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The hearing, which took place last week, gave politicians a chance to evaluate the details of the Flint water crisis, which has left 8,000 children exposed to lead poisoning, and determine which government and environmental officials will be held responsible, reports NPR.

### **Break-In at Flint City Hall**

#### Flint Police Claim Break-In At Office Holding Water Documents Was 'An Inside Job'

By Chris White, Daily Caller 03/21/16 1:08 PM

Burglars broke into a city hall office full of documents related to Flint's water system just before federal investigations into the water crisis began. A TV was the only thing taken, according to public officials. So far no warrants have been issued and no arrests made, but that hasn't stopped the Flint Police Department from putting forward some theories on the Dec. 28 theft.

The mystery surrounding missing water files at Flint City Hall: 'It was definitely an inside job'

By Peter Holley, Washington Post 03/20/16

Days before the federal government opened an investigation into the Flint water crisis, someone broke into a vacant City Hall office full of documents related to the embattled Michigan city's water system. Nearly three months later, officials have confirmed that a TV went missing, but little else is known, according to the Flint Journal. Without suspects or a firm handle on what else may have been swiped, authorities told the paper last week that the crime may remain unsolved.

## **Lead & Water Testing**

Flint lead lines may not be only problem for water, officials say

By Gary Ridley, MLIVE 03/21/16 5:33 AM

While contractors begin to remove lead service lines across the city, state and federal regulators are working to determine if galvanized pipes are also contributing to the city's water problems. Politicians and international news headlines have targeted the city's lead pipes. But, experts say there may be other parts of the city's water infrastructure contributing to the water crisis.

Lead testing held for dogs in Flint water crisis at downtown church

By Amanda Emery, MLIVE 03/19/16 7:03 PM

As the city struggles through the water crisis, Flint residents brought their four-legged friends to an event Saturday to have their lead levels tested. The free lead testing event was hosted by the Michigan State College of Veterinary Medicine on Saturday, March 19 at the parish hall of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 711 S. Saginaw St.

### Flint Residents Won't Rest Until All the Lead Is Gone

By Laura Bliss, City Lab 03/18/16

At Thursday's congressional hearing on the Flint water crisis, Michigan Governor Rick Snyder attempted to highlight his efforts at making the city whole again: Distributing bottled water and water filters, and requesting millions more in aid from the Michigan legislature and Congress. "My focus is what I can do to make Flint a better place," he said. "They deserve a fix." To which a crowd of Flint residents, watching the hearing in an upstairs overflow room at the U.S. Capitol building, responded: "Then resign!"

### Michigan Death Toll From Legionnaire's Disease Rises To 10 - Is Flint Water To Blame?

By James Maynard, Tech Times 03/19/16 7:58 AM

Ten people have now died of Legionnaire's Disease in Michigan, with the latest known fatality taking place in the Flint area. Public water systems in that region are known to carry large concentrations of toxins, including lead.

### The Latest: County wants \$1M from state over Flint crisis

By AP for Washington Times 03/21/16

Genesee County wants the state of Michigan to give it more than \$1 million as reimbursement for money the county spent in response to the Flint water crisis. The county's board of commissioners sent a letter Monday to Gov. Rick Snyder demanding to be reimbursed, arguing the water emergency was man-made.

### Flint water crisis could mean two dozen layoffs if state fails to pay \$1.1M

By Dominic Adams, MLIVE 03/21/16 11:03 AM

Two dozen workers may lose their jobs if the state does not give Genesee County \$1.1 million it has spent responding to the Flint water crisis. County Board of Commissioners Chairman Jamie Curtis said the county has borne costs for the water crisis even though it played no role in the decision to switch the city's water supply.

### Plan to loan workers \$15K for Flint houses so crazy it just might work

By Bryn Mickle, MLIVE 03/21/16 7:08 AM

Leave it to a bunch of engineers to come up with one of those ideas that sounds so crazy it just might work. The plan? Give people fifteen grand to buy a house in a city where the housing market has been rocked to its core by a lead crisis. The same city where \$2,000 can buy you a three-bedroom fixer upper? Where experts are still trying to determine when it will be safe to drink the water again?

### Flint looks to add grocery store oasis in food desert

By Dominic Adams, MLIVE 03/21/16 6:09 AM

In a city where nearly half the population lives more than a mile from a supermarket, efforts are underway to give people more grocery options. With the city in the midst of a water crisis that has raised fears of lead poisoning in households across the area, the lack of grocery stores has created concerns that people can easily access needed calcium, iron and vitamin C-rich foods.

### Q&A: Janice Karcher Vice President of Economic Development, Flint and Genesee Chamber of Commerce

By Nick Manes, MiBiz 03/20/16 6:15 PM

Before Flint made international news for its water crisis, the city and its surrounding area was experiencing somewhat of a comeback as unemployment fell and the region worked to diversify its economy. Now that the area is in the throes of one of the worst public health crises in American history, many Flint area businesses have been affected economically as well, according to Janice Karcher, vice president of economic development for the Flint and Genesee County Chamber of Commerce. Karcher spoke with MiBiz about her organization's goals and how she hopes broader economic development strategies will result from the crisis.

### Flint's residents are building their legal case

By Jennifer Chambers, Detroit News 03/18/16 11:32 PM

Jan Burgess is legally blind, but that doesn't stop the Flint resident from playing detective when gathering evidence to document the impact the city's corrosive water has had on her body, home and well-being. Inside her home, next to stacks of water bottles, the 63-year-old is amassing

medical records, test results, photographs, receipts and other materials to prepare for a civil lawsuit she has joined against state and local officials over the use of toxic water in Flint.

#### Flint Water Crisis Lawsuits Discussed at Michigan Law

By Lori Atherton, Michigan Law 03/21/16

Shortly after the City of Flint changed its water source from Detroit to the Flint River, Pastor Allen Overton knew something wasn't right. "The water was almost as brown as the Coke in your cup, and it smelled foul coming out of the tap," Overton told an audience at Michigan Law on March 17. But when the Flint native, who leads the Second Missionary Baptist Church in Monroe, Mich., learned that General Motors was allowed to switch back to Detroit water because the water from the Flint River was rusting its auto parts, he knew the situation was dire.

#### UM-Flint Expert Faculty, Staff Playing Integral Role in Water Crisis Recovery

By UM Flint News 03/21/16 1:39 PM

With Flint facing a water crisis, the University of Michigan-Flint continues to leverage its hometown expertise to make a difference for its community, providing critically important analysis, partnership, and investment. Since its founding in Flint in 1956 at the request of and with the support of community leaders, UM-Flint has been known for its involvement in the community. It continues today with campus leaders tapped to also provide community leadership.

## **Opinions**

#### Riley: Is lieutenant governor ready to inherit Flint water crisis?

By Rochelle Riley, Detroit Free Press 03/21/16 2:00 PM

He has been in Flint three to five days a week since the governor declared a state of emergency in January. He has been making fund-raising phone calls on behalf of the Community Foundation of Greater Flint to help the effort to find interventions for children possibly impacted by ingesting lead-poisoned water.



## Corrupt Politics Poisoning the Destiny of Children

By Evaggelos Vallianatos, Huffington Post 03/21/16 1:24 PM

I am astonished and pleased by the level of Congressional discourse on the poisoning of the water of Flint, Michigan. I remember inviting witnesses for a House hearing on corruption at agencies like the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the US Agency for International Development. Yet my boss cancelled the hearing at the last moment. No explanations. This was sometime in the spring of 1978. Corporations and rich people lobby members of Congress incessantly. In return, members of Congress expect donations to their reelection campaigns. They are so busy collecting promises and funds that technical issues or government regulation and environmental protection are mere blips on their radar. If they focus on them, it's because they want to score victories against their political opponents. "Hearing" is more than gathering of evidence. It is primarily political theater.

## What I Saw in Flint

By Rep. Keith Ellison, The Nation 03/21/16 1:05 PM

Families in Flint, Michigan, are facing a man-made tragedy. Their water is making them sick. This happened because the state government ripped democratic rights away from residents and tried to run government like a business. The state government made decisions in the name of "fiscal responsibility," but when it comes to people's health and well-being, the government should not cut corners and operate on the cheap.

## What Flint Reveals About African Americans and Trust in Government

By Tracey Ross, Huffington Post 03/21/16 11:53 AM

Last week, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform held hearings on Flint's water crisis. The committee heard testimony — and plenty of finger pointing — from leaders at all levels of government, including Michigan Governor Rick Snyder (R), who was repeatedly called on by members to resign. At the heart of the hearings were two simple questions: how did this happen and who is to blame?

## How Should We Talk About Flint's Lead Problem?

By Kevin Drum, Mother Jones 03/20/16 2:53 PM

Dana Milbank writes about Friday's congressional hearing on Flint's water: In a hearing this

week about the poisonous water in Flint, Mich., Rep. Earl L. “Buddy” Carter (R-Ga.) tried to blame the lead-tainted water on the Obama administration’s Environmental Protection Agency. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy explained that, under the law Congress passed, states are in charge of enforcing drinking-water standards. “The law?” Carter replied, contemptuously. “The law? I don’t think anybody here cares about the law.”

#### McCown: Flint disaster runs deeper than tainted water

By Brigham McCown, Detroit News 03/20/16 11:06 PM

As lawmakers continue debating federal aid for those affected by the drinking water crisis in Flint, the city’s residents are still struggling with the effects of poor public policy decisions. Perhaps the most significant policy impacts resulting from the crisis are an increased focus on the vital importance of safe drinking water, the acute need for a modern and dependable water infrastructure, and the very real dangers of neglecting those priorities.

#### Gov. Snyder needs an emergency manager

By Rochelle Riley, Detroit Free Press 03/20/16 1:34 AM

Watching Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder testify before Congress about the Flint water crisis was, for all the world, like watching everyone trying to explain what happened to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. It was all somebody else’s fault: The levees weren’t strong enough. The emergency notice didn’t come soon enough. The amount of emergency transportation was woefully lacking. Plenty of people shared blame after the fact. But who’s ultimately responsible for a city before and during a crisis: The mayor.

#### The next step for fixing Flint

By Editorial Board, Washington Post 03/20/16 7:05 PM

THE HOUSE Oversight and Government Reform Committee met last week to witness one of the most common of Washington exercises: buck-passing. Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder (R) testified that “career bureaucrats” were responsible for the disastrous lead poisoning in Flint’s tap water, and he placed another heap of blame on the federal Environmental Protection Agency for failing to act sooner. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy shot back that the state created the problem and dragged its feet when the EPA started to ask questions.

Lead poisoning is back—and Flint's not the only city that will suffer the consequences

By Dr. Akash Goel, Quartz 03/19/16

I remember learning about lead poisoning and its consequences back in medical school. At the time, I thought it was historically relevant but unlikely to have much practical significance. After all, over the past 40 years, lead has been removed as an additive to gasoline and paint, and blood lead levels have reached historic lows in the United States. Lead poisoning seemed to be an archaic threat. And then Flint happened.

Readers dissatisfied with testimony on Flint water crisis

By Detroit Free Press 03/19/16 12:06 AM

On Thursday, Gov. Rick Snyder and Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy testified before a congressional committee about the roles of the state and the EPA in the Flint water crisis. Here's what readers had to say about the hearing:

Tick, Tock, Tick Tock: Flint's Disposable Poor Children

By Marian Wright Edelman, Huffington Post 03/18/16 5:36 PM

America's political blame game continues while children continue to suffer life impairing harm. The nation was riveted this week as Michigan Governor Rick Snyder and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Chief Gina McCarthy were grilled over the shameful inaction on the Flint, Michigan water crisis by members of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. There is plenty of blame to go around. But where is the action for the children and families of Flint?

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